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CALENDAR

NOVEMBER
18 National 4-H Conference application deadline
19 Get Green – LOW School
19 Leader’s Council – 5 pm
22 Holiday Extravaganza

FEBRUARY
21-22 Northwest BLU, Moorhead, MN

APRIL
6-11 National 4-H Conference

JUNE
18-19 Science of Agriculture Response Challenge
20-27 Citizenship Washington Focus
Get Green

November 19th - 3pm at the LOW School. Each club is invited to showcase their activities from the past year provide a short game, snack or craft and hopefully recruit some new members.

Leader's Council Meeting

November 19th 5pm at the LOW School.

Holiday Extravaganza

November 22nd 2pm at the LOW School 4-H will again be helping with crafts and assisting Santa.

Northern MN 4-H Project Bowl Invitational

The 4th annual Northern MN 4-H Project Bowl Invitational will take place Saturday, February 7, 2015 at the UMC campus in Crookston MN again. Attached is a flyer if anyone has an upcoming event, and would like to help promote the Invitational. This email is just to get the date out to everyone, registration forms and question forms will be sent out in November.

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/northernmn4hprojectbowlinvitational

Any questions you can contact me at 218-964-5689 or cторствеit@gvtel.com.
Chad Torstveit

Making 4-H MORE Fun!: Annual Fall Volunteer Training

Young people stay in 4-H because it’s fun! Find out how to create vibrant 4-H experiences that will make members want to keep coming back. The statewide fall volunteer training is for all 4-H youth & adult volunteers in clubs and county-wide groups and programs, including PDC’s, Federations, Leader’s Council and others. At least one volunteer from each club needs to plan on attending, but you are encouraged to come as a team of youth and adults.

Participants will dig into ideas and activities to get 4-H'ers engaged and excited. Discover "grab and go" resources that are available in your county and region to add fun to your 4-H club, project, afterschool or group gatherings. Resources will include 4-H club ideas, healthy living, animal science, science, and more.

You will leave this training with:

- A toolkit of ready-to-use ideas to get kids involved in fun!
- Ideas from other volunteers on what works for them.
- A plan to increase the fun in your 4-H group.

Area trainings are planned for:

November 1, 9-11 am, (refreshments provided), University of Minnesota Crookston, Kiehle Building Board Room, 2900 University Ave, Crookston.

November 6, 6:30-8 pm (light meal at 6 pm), Courthouse, 124 Langevin Ave, Red Lake Falls

November 24, 6:30-8 pm (light meal at 6 pm), Courthouse, 208 E Colvin Avenue, Warren

These times and dates don’t work for you? Volunteers are welcomed at any location. Visit the website to find other trainings near you www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/training-2014. There is no cost, but registration is requested by contacting the County Extension Office three days prior to the training.

4-H is investing in its most valuable asset: Volunteers

Positive youth development requires engagement with caring, committed and well-trained adults. 4-H provides a comprehensive and multi-format system of training and support to volunteers who deliver 4-H youth development programs to young people across the state. Much of that training is provided face-to-face. But we know that providing some training opportunities online will help our volunteers more easily access the training and resources they need, when they need it.
A series of dynamic, interactive 30-minute online training modules to help volunteers build their skills and knowledge from home. These trainings are available to all adult screened volunteers, through https://mn.4honline.com/. (At this time the training will not function in Google Chrome; log in using an alternative browser such as Internet Explorer, Firefox or Safari.) Check out these online volunteer training topics:

- Managing 4-H Clubs: A Guide for 4-H Club Leaders
- Creating a Welcoming, Engaging and Encouraging Environment for Youth
- Managing 4-H Clubs - Online 4-H Volunteer Training
- 4-H Project Leaders: Where the Action Starts
- The 4-H Learning Environment
- Ensuring a Safe 4-H Environment
- County Financial Practices: A Guide for County Financial Teams
- Chaperon Training

To get a preview of each of the trainings, visit: www.4-H.umn.edu/volunteer/online-training/.

Hats Off! Congratulations to our latest winners of a $25 4-H Mall card for viewing online trainings: Mary Ann Solie (Red Lake), Ron Schroeder (Hubbard), Kevin Brezina (Douglas), James Kruize (Clay).

### Online enrollment for 4-H families

Enrollment for the new 4-H year is now open and Minnesota 4-H families are reminded and encouraged to go to 4HOnline to enroll/re-enroll both youth members and adult volunteers. Active enrollment in the current year is required for participation in 4-H events and activities. The enrollment/re-enrollment process is quick and easy; even families with multiple youth should be done in ten minutes or less. Also, active enrollment ensures that critical communications will be received, especially as it relates to deadlines and project specific information. Detailed information about online enrollment and re-enrollment is available at: http://www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/4honline/.

Youth, their parents and adult volunteers, as part of enrolling or re-enrolling, will all be agreeing to the Minnesota 4-H Code of Conduct, which is available for review in its entirety, along with other policy and authorization statements at www.4-H.umn.edu/policy or by contacting your local Extension office: www.4-H.umn.edu/county.

### Message from Dorothy

Dear 4-H families and volunteers,

November is a time when we reflect and give thanks for everything that brings joy, meaning and purpose to our lives. It is also a time when many people think about how they can make a difference in the lives of people in their communities who may be in need in different ways. Teaching youth to be active citizens and leaders in their communities is a priority in 4-H, and community service projects are one way 4-H’ers lead.

Research indicates that civic engagement and “connection” to community and those around us play an important role in the healthy development of young people.

I encourage you to think about how you can support our civic-minded 4-H’ers in their efforts to make a difference in the lives of the people in your communities this holiday season.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not thank each of you for your contributions to Minnesota 4-H. It would not be the valuable program it is without the service and contributions of each of you. Minnesota 4-H is better because you care enough to give your time, talents and skills.

Sincerely,

Dorothy M. Freeman
Associate Dean and State 4-H Director
Plan to attend a 4-H BLU near You!

The Minnesota 4-H State Ambassadors invite all youth in grades six through one year past high school to plan to attend a Building Leadership and Understanding (BLU) overnight leadership retreat near you! Volunteer chaperones will also be needed. Five BLUs will be held this year in the following locations:

- Feb. 7-8: Central - Elk River
- Feb. 21-22: Northwest - Moorhead
- Feb. 21-22: Southeast - Rochester
- Feb. 28 - March 1: Northeast - Duluth
- Feb. 28 - March 1: Southwest - Marshall

Additional details will be available online at: www.4-H.umn.edu/events/blu/ by Nov. 10, or connect with your county 4-H office for more information!

New 4-H Youth Development program: The Science of Agriculture Response Challenge

4-H knows that today’s youth are tomorrow’s agriculture leaders. The new 4-H Science of Agriculture Response Challenge asks youth to explore and develop science-based solutions to agriculture-related issues they have identified in their communities. Youth teams will work with local partners to explore issues and find solutions to challenges in agronomy, animal husbandry, soil science, ag business, rural finance, food science and engineering.

Participants will then attend a statewide event (June 18-19, 2015) at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus to present their 4-H Science of Agriculture Challenge projects, and connect with representatives from the University and agribusiness community who are eager to meet the next generation of leaders in agriculture and STEM. Teams can be cross-county. Each member of the top three teams will receive a scholarship of $500 - $1,000.

More information about the Science of Agriculture Response Challenge, including a quick start guide, volunteer webinars and sample presentations can be found at: www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/events/science-of-ag-response/.

If you have any questions please contact your county program coordinator or Joshua Rice, Extension specialist, science of agriculture at jerice@umn.edu or 612-624-8415.

National 4-H Conference 2015

Are you recognized as a leader in your county programs and have you experienced leadership opportunities outside of your county? Minnesota will send four youth delegates to Washington D.C. in the spring with selection based on qualifications, contents of delegate nomination/recommendation forms and interview. All information is outlined on the 4-H events website under National 4-H Conference at www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-H/events/national-conference/index.html.

Application postmark deadline is Nov. 18. Go to the website to find out requirements and steps to the application process. Talk with your program coordinator today!

Summer 2015 Citizenship Washington Focus

Minnesota youth delegates will be heading to Washington D.C. for Citizenship Washington Focus leaving on June 20, 2015 and returning to Minnesota on June 27, 2015. Citizenship Washington Focus (CWF) is a week-long 4-H citizenship program that takes place at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Washington, D.C. Participants will learn from and meet with young people from across the nation, strengthen their civic engagement understanding and skills, experience Washington D.C., and develop and implement a CWF: Call to Action plan back home.
Full information about this great experience can be found on the 4-H events website under Citizenship Washington Focus at www.extension.umn.edu/youth/mn4-h/events/.

On the website, you will find a flyer for distribution to those who might be interested and also the full explanation of the CWF: Call to Action document.

Pre-registration material will be found on this website beginning Jan. 15 with full application material available Feb. 17. This is a first-come first-served application process. Check with your county program coordinator if there are additional county requirements for this experience.

### 2014 Youth Livestock Committee Application

Attention 4-H sheep members,

We are looking for 4-H sheep members 9th grade and up to be part of the state fair sheep show committee. We will select three members for one year terms each to help plan and organize the state fair 4-H sheep project experience. We are looking for members with extensive sheep project and leadership experience. 4-H members selected will work with adult volunteers and staff members to enhance the competitive and educational opportunities with the sheep project at future state fairs. To apply, please complete the Minnesota 4-H youth livestock committee application listed on the sheep project page under “Other learning opportunities” at www.4-H.umn.edu/projects/animal-science/sheep/ and return to Karen Nelson by Nov. 15, 2014.